

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of claims with amendments that replaces all prior listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a blade for a cutting tool, in particular for a knife, a pair of scissors, a saw, a household appliance, or indeed an industrial tool, the blade [(1)] being made of steel or an alloy of stainless steels and having at least one cutting edge (3; 103) extending over at least a portion of [its] a periphery thereof, the method ~~being characterized in that it comprises comprising~~ the following steps:

- a) making a blade body (2; 102) possessing at least one free edge (F; 4) provided in [(the)] a vicinity of ~~the location of the~~ ~~or each at least one~~ cutting edge (3; 103);
- b) projecting a make-up material (M; M') in the form of a powder (5; 105) onto the at least one free edge (F; 4), the hardness of the make-up material being greater than the hardness of the blade body;
- c) subjecting the make-up material powder (5; 105) to a laser beam [(8)] at the same time as projecting the make-up material powder so as to form a bead [(6)] or strip [(109)]

on at least a portion of [[said]] the at least one free edge ~~(4;~~
~~F); and,~~

d) performing a tempering and hardening operation on the
blade body fitted with a bead or strip of the make-up material;
and

e) forming the cutting edge ~~(3; 103)~~ in the bead [[(6)]] or
strip [[(109)]] of make-up material ~~(M; M')~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that said wherein the at least one~~ free edge is
formed by a flat [[(4)]] extending perpendicularly to a main
plane [[(P)]] of the blade body [[(2)]].

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the blade body ~~(2; 102)~~ presents
dimensions that are slightly smaller than those of the final
blade [[(1)]].

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that wherein the at least one~~ cutting edge ~~(3;~~
~~103)~~ is made by grinding, machining, or abrading at least the

bead [[(6)]] or the strip [[(109)]] of make-up material -(M; M').

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the blade body [[(2)]] is machined
or ground before the step of forming the bead [[(6)]] of make-up
material.

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A blade for a cutting tool, in
particular a knife, a pair of scissors, a saw, a household
appliance, or an industrial machine, the blade having at least
one cutting edge on at least a portion of [[its]] a periphery
thereof, and being ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ having a
blade body -(2; 102), the at least one cutting edge -(3; 103) being
supported on [[one]] an edge of [[said]] the blade body -(2; 102)
and made by a process comprising the following steps:

- a) making a blade body possessing at least one free edge
provided in a vicinity of the at least one cutting edge;
- b) projecting a make-up material in the form of a powder
onto the at least one free edge,

the hardness of the make-up material being greater than the hardness of the blade body;

c) subjecting the make-up material powder to a laser beam at the same time as projecting the make-up material powder so as to form a bead or strip on at least a portion of the at least one free edge,

d) performing a tempering and hardening operation on the blade body fitted with a bead or strip of the make-up material; and

e) forming the cutting edge in the bead or strip of make-up material.

11. (Currently Amended) A blade according to claim 10, characterized in that wherein the at least one cutting edge ~~(3, 103)~~ and the blade body ~~(2, 102)~~ are made of at least two different materials.

12. (Original) A cutting tool, in particular a knife, a pair of scissors, a saw, a household appliance, or indeed an industrial machine, characterized in that it includes having at least one blade ~~made according to claim 10 and made by a process comprising the following steps:~~

a) making a blade body possessing at least one free edge

provided in a vicinity of the at least one cutting edge;

b) projecting a make-up material in the form of a powder
onto the at least one free edge,

the hardness of the make-up material being greater than the
hardness of the blade body;

c) subjecting the make-up material powder to a laser beam
at the same time as projecting the make-up material powder so as
to form a bead or strip on at least a portion of the at least one
free edge,

d) performing a tempering and hardening operation on the
blade body fitted with a bead or strip of the make-up material;
and

e) forming the cutting edge in the bead or strip of make-up
material.